

# ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Felecia A. Rotellini Superintendent of Financial Institutions

Janet Napolitano Governor

November 17, 2008



## Via Certified Mail

Hillary Hang Nguyen Managing Member Elite Funding Group L.L.C. 9299 W. Olive Ave., Suite 404 Peoria, AZ 85345

Reference: Docket # 09F-BD046-BNK / Elite Funding Group L.L.C.

Dear Ms. Nguyen:

Please find the enclosed formal Notice of Hearing. The hearing is scheduled for **December 23, 2008, at 1:30 p.m.** at the Office of Administrative Hearings, 1400 West Washington, Suite 101, Phoenix, Arizona.

Please contact Assistant Attorney General Craig Raby at (602) 542-8889 with any questions.

Very truly yours,

Robert D. Charlton Assistant Superintendent

RDC:sll

Enclosures

cc: Craig Raby, Assistant Attorney General

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ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

In the Matter of the Mortgage Broker License of:

**ELITE FUNDING GROUP L.L.C.** 9299 W. Olive Ave, Suite 404 Peoria, AZ 85345

Petitioner.

No. 09F-BD046-BNK

NOTICE OF HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that, pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes ("A.R.S.") §§ 6-137, 6-138, and 41-1092.02, the above-captioned matter will be heard through the Office of Administrative Hearings, an independent agency, and is scheduled for December 23, 2008, at 1:30 p.m., at the Office of Administrative Hearings, 1400 West Washington, Suite 101, Phoenix, Arizona, (602) 542-9826 (the "Hearing").

The purpose of the Hearing is to determine if grounds exist for: (1) the issuance of an order pursuant to A.R.S. § 6-137 directing Petitioner to cease and desist from the violative conduct and to take the appropriate affirmative actions, within a reasonable period of time prescribed by the Superintendent, to correct the conditions resulting from the unlawful acts, practices, and transactions; (2) the imposition of a civil monetary penalty pursuant to A.R.S. § 6-132; (3) the suspension or revocation of Petitioner's license pursuant to A.R.S. § 6-905; and (4) an order or any other remedy necessary or proper for the enforcement of statutes and rules regulating mortgage brokers pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 6-123 and 6-131.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 6-138, the Superintendent of Financial Institutions for the State of Arizona (the "Superintendent") delegates the authority vested in the Superintendent, whether implied or expressed, to the Director of the Office of Administrative Hearings or the Director's designee to preside over the Hearing as the Administrative Law Judge, to make written recommendations to the Superintendent consisting of proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order. The Office of Administrative Hearings has designated Brian B. Tully, at the address and phone number listed above, as the Administrative Law Judge for these proceedings. Pursuant to Arizona Administrative

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Code ("A.A.C.") Rule 2-19-104 and A.R.S. §§ 41-1092.01(H)(1) and 41-1092.08, the Superintendent retains authority to enter orders granting a stay, orders on motions for rehearing, final decisions pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1092.08 or other order or process which the Administrative Law Judge is specifically prohibited from entering.

Motions to continue this matter shall be made in writing to the Administrative Law Judge not less than fifteen (15) days prior to the date set for the Hearing. A copy of any motion to continue shall be mailed or hand-delivered to the opposing party on the same date of filing with the Office of Administrative Hearings.

A.R.S. § 41-1092.07 entitles any person affected by this Hearing to appear in person and by counsel, or to proceed without counsel during the giving of all evidence, to have a reasonable opportunity to inspect all documentary evidence, to cross-examine witnesses, to present evidence and witnesses in support of his/her interests, and to have subpoenas issued by the Administrative Law Judge to compel attendance of witnesses and production of evidence. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1092.07(B), any person may appear on his or her own behalf or by counsel.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1092.07(E), a clear and accurate record of the proceedings will be made by a court reporter or by electronic means. Any party that requests a transcript of the proceedings shall pay the cost of the transcript for the court reporter or other transcriber.

Questions concerning issues raised in this Notice of Hearing should be directed to Assistant Attorney General Craig A. Raby, (602) 542-8889, 1275 West Washington, Phoenix, Arizona 85007.

## NOTICE OF APPLICABLE RULES

On February 7, 1978, the Arizona Department of Financial Institutions (the "Department") adopted A.A.C. R20-4-1201 through R20-4-1220, which were amended September 12, 2001, setting forth the rules of practice and procedure applicable in contested cases and appealable agency actions before the Superintendent. The hearing will be conducted pursuant to these rules and the rules governing procedures before the Office of Administrative Hearings, A.A.C. R2-19-101 through R2-19-122. A copy of these rules is enclosed.

Pursuant to A.A.C. R20-4-1209, Petitioner shall file a written answer within twenty (20) days after issuance of this Notice of Hearing. The answer shall briefly state the Petitioner's position or defense and shall specifically admit or deny each of the assertions contained in this Notice of Hearing. If the answering Petitioner is without or are unable to reasonably obtain knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of an assertion, Petitioner shall so state, which shall have the effect of a denial. Any assertion not denied is deemed admitted. When Petitioner intends to deny only a part or a qualification of an assertion, or to qualify an assertion, Petitioner shall expressly admit so much of it as is true and shall deny the remainder. Any defense not raised in the answer is deemed waived.

If a timely answer is not filed, pursuant to A.A.C. R20-4-1209(D), Petitioner will be deemed in default and the Superintendent may deem the allegations in this Notice of Hearing as true and admitted and the Superintendent may take whatever action is appropriate, including suspension, revocation, denial of Petitioner's license or affirming an order to Cease and Desist and imposition of a civil penalty or restitution to any injured party.

Petitioner's answer shall be mailed or delivered to the Arizona Department of Financial Institutions, 2910 North 44th Street, Suite 310, Phoenix, Arizona 85018, with a copy mailed or delivered to the Office of Administrative Hearings, 1400 West Washington, Suite 101, Phoenix, Arizona 85007 and to Assistant Attorney General Craig A. Raby, Consumer Protection & Advocacy Section, Attorney General's Office, 1275 West Washington, Phoenix, Arizona 85007.

Persons with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations such as interpreters, alternative format or assistance with physical accessibility. Requests for accommodations must be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodations. If accommodations are required, call the Office of Administrative Hearings at (602) 542-9826.

### **FACTS**

1. Petitioner Elite Funding Group, L.L.C. ("EFG") is an Arizona limited liability company authorized to transact business in Arizona as a mortgage broker, license number MB 0908141,

within the meaning of A.R.S. §§ 6-901, et seq. The nature of EFG's business is that of making, negotiating, or offering to make or negotiate loans secured by Arizona real property, within the meaning of A.R.S. § 6-901(6).

- 2. Correspondence received by the Department on September 19, 2008, revealed that EFG failed to obtain prior approval before completing a change in control, specifically:
  - a. The Department's records list Hang D. Nguyen, 50% owner, and Jason Nguyen, 50% owner of EFG;
  - b. On September 19, 2008, the Department received a Mortgage Broker License Renewal Application ("Renewal"). Question number 10 of the Renewal lists the current owners of EFG as Hillary Hang Nguyen, 75%, and Luat Nguyen, 25% owner;
  - The Renewal was signed on September 15, 2008 by Hang Nguyen, member/manager/broker;
  - d. On September 24, 2008, the Department requested clarification on the ownership of EFG via facsimile;
  - e. On September 29, 2008, the Department received:
    - i. A letter dated September 26, 2008 from Hang Hillary Nguyen,
      Member/Manager/Broker which states, "There has been an oversight at Elite
      Funding Group L.L.C. in updating AZDFI with our L.L.C. ownership
      records...Attached are documents showing change in ownership that took
      place 10/25/2007 and 02/12/2008:". The letter states that the ownership of
      EFG prior to October 25, 2007 was Hang Hillary Nguyen, 50%, and Jason
      Nguyen, 50%; from October 25, 2007 until February 12, 2008 the ownership
      of EFG was Hang Hillary Nguyen, 100%; and since February 12, 2008 the
      ownership of EFG is Hang Hillary Nguyen, 75%, and Luat Nguyen, 25%;
    - ii. Copies of the documents filed with the Arizona Corporation Commission removing Jason Nguyen as a member on October 25, 2007 and adding Luat

Nguyen as a member of EFG on February 12, 2008; and

- iii. A copy of the Assignment of Interest in EFG effective February 12, 2008; and
- f. On October 9, 2008, the Department sent instructions to EFG via facsimile on how to amend their records as to the ownership of EFG.
- 3. Correspondence received by the Department on September 19, 2008, further revealed that EFG failed to properly notify the Department of a change in address; specifically:
  - a. The Department records show the primary address of EFG as 9299 W. Olive Ave., Suite 405, Peoria, AZ 85345. The Renewal discloses the primary address of EFG as 9299 W. Olive Ave., Suite 404, Peoria, AZ 85345.
- 4. The Department, to date, has not received the required notification and fees as required under A.A.C. R20-4-916.
- 5. The Department has also not received the required documentation for a change in ownership as requested in the Department's October 9, 2008 facsimile to EFG. Items still required to be submitted include the MU2, AZ-MU2 and fingerprint card for Luat Nguyen as well as the fee to process the fingerprint card.
- 6. Based upon the above findings, the Department issued and served upon EFG a Notice of Assessment on October 27, 2008.
- 7. On October 29, 2008, Petitioner filed a Request For Hearing to appeal the Notice of Assessment.

#### LAW

- 1. Pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 6-901, et seq., the Superintendent has the authority and duty to regulate all persons engaged in the mortgage broker business and with the enforcement of statutes, rules, and regulations relating to mortgage brokers.
  - 2. By the conduct set forth in the Findings of Fact, EFG violated the following:
    - a. A.R.S. § 6-903(O) by failing to seek or receive the Superintendent's prior written consent to change ownership; and

b. A.A.C. R20-4-916 by failing to properly notify the Department of a change in address.

3. The violations, set forth above, constitute grounds for: (1) the issuance of an order pursuant to A.R.S. § 6-137 directing Petitioner to cease and desist from the violative conduct and to take the appropriate affirmative actions, within a reasonable period of time prescribed by the Superintendent, to correct the conditions resulting from the unlawful acts, practices, and transactions; (2) the imposition of a civil monetary penalty pursuant to A.R.S. § 6-132; (3) the suspension or revocation of Petitioner's license pursuant to A.R.S. § 6-905; and (4) an order or any other remedy necessary or proper for the enforcement of statutes and rules regulating mortgage brokers pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 6-123 and 6-131.

WHEREFORE, if after a hearing, the Superintendent makes a finding of one or more of the above-described violations, the Superintendent may affirm the October 27, Notice of Assessment, pursuant to A.R.S. § 6-137; impose a civil money penalty pursuant to A.R.S. § 6-132; suspend or revoke Petitioner's license pursuant to A.R.S. § 6-905; and order any other remedy necessary or proper for the enforcement of statutes and rules regulating mortgage brokers pursuant to A.R.S. § 6-123 and 6-131.

DATED this 17th day of November, 2008.

Felecia A. Rotellini Superintendent of Financial Institutions

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Robert D. Charlton

Assistant Superintendent of Financial Institutions

1	ORIGINAL OF THE NOTICE OF HEARING filed this 1994 day of 100 June 2008 in the office of:
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3	Felecia A. Rotellini   Superintendent of Financial Institutions   Arizona Department of Financial Institutions
4	Attn: Susan L. Longo
5	2910 N. 44th Street, Suite 310 Phoenix, AZ 85018
6	COPY of the foregoing mailed/delivered same date to:
7	Brian B. Tully, Administrative Law Judge Office of Administrative Hearings
8	1400 W. Washington, Suite 101 Phoenix, AZ 85007
9	
10	Craig A. Raby, Assistant Attorney General Attorney General's Office 1275 West Washington
11	Phoenix, AZ 85007
12	Richard Fergus, Division Manager Robert D. Charlton, Assistant Superintendent
13	Arizona Department of Financial Institutions 2910 N. 44th Street, Suite 310
14	Phoenix, AZ 85018
15	AND COPY MAILED SAME DATE by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, to:
16	Hillary Hang Nguyen, Managing Member
17	Elite Funding Group L.L.C.
18	9299 W. Olive Ave, Suite 404 Peoria, AZ 85345
19	Kenneth J. Peace, Statutory Agent for
20	Elite Funding Group L.L.C. c/o Braun Siler Kruzel PC
21	14811 N. Kierland Blvd., Suite 500
22	Scottsdale, AZ 85254
	Sugar Show
23	331583, PHX-AGN-2008-0730
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